

VEHICLE ACTIVE NETWORK AND DEVICE**Abstract of the Disclosure**

A vehicle active network (12) communicatively couples devices (14-20)
5 within a vehicle (10). Device operation is independent of the interface (22-28) of the
device (14-20) with the active network (12). Additionally, the architecture of the
active network (12) provides one or more levels of communication redundancy. The
architecture provides for the total integration of vehicle systems and functions, and
permits plug-and-play device integration and upgradeability.

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